IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Attorney Docket No. <u>Gabara 81-10-1-14</u>

In re application of: <u>Thaddeus J. Gabara et al.</u>

Serial No.:	10/054,687	Group Art Unit:	2631
Filed:	1/22/02	Examiner:	Freshteh N. Aghdam
Matter No.:	992.1002	Phone No.:	571-272-6037

For: <u>Block Processing In A Maximum A Posteriori Processor For Reduced Power Consumption</u>

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Notice of Allowability mailed on <u>11/20/07</u> contains an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

The Statement appears to attempt to refer to only a portion of the claim language from independent claims 1, 9, and 16, namely, "selecting the maximum combined probability for transitions to the current state" according to the equation recited in those claims. The Applicant submits that those independent claims recite additional language not quoted in the Statement. For example, claim 1 also recites, *inter alia*, "(a) receiving the encoded data"; "(b) retrieving a first block of samples from the encoded data and a corresponding set of forward probabilities, wherein the block of samples correspond to states of a merged trellis, wherein the merged trellis provides combined probabilities of transition from one or more states at k-N, N an integer greater than 1, to current states at time k as the set of forward probabilities"; (c) updating the set of forward probabilities of the merged trellis for the current state at time k, based on the block of samples and the corresponding set of forward probabilities"; "(d) using the maximum combined probability to calculate one or more log-likelihood values in a maximum *a posteriori* (MAP) processor for one or more blocks of samples corresponding to the data"; and "(e) detecting or decoding the encoded data using the one or more log-likelihood values."

In general, to the extent that the Statement differs from the language of any of the independent claims, the Applicant rejects any narrowing or limitations that might possibly result from such differences.

For each of these reasons individually and for all these reasons collectively, the Applicant objects to the Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: <u>February 6, 2008</u>
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